GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:642
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2002
ASSISTANCE TO BHOPAL GAS VICTIMS
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the aid so far been given by the Union Government to the Bhopal Gas leak victims;

(b) the progress so far made for the rehabilitation of the victims and the number of victims and their families who are still to be rehabilitated; and

(c) the details of compensation recovered so far for damages suffered by these victims from the Union Carbide Limited andpaid to the victims till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a)& (b): After the Bhopal gas leak disaster, the Central Governmentreleased an assistance of approximately Rs.102 crore to the Government of Madhya Pradesh to meet expenditure on relief and rehabilitation of gas victims. In addition, the Central Government approved an Action Plan of Rs.258 crore for the medical, economic, social and environmental rehabilitation of gas victims. This expenditure is to be shared between the Central Government and the State Government in the ratio of 75:25. TheCentral Government has already released its share of Rs.193.50 crore. The Government of Madhya Pradesh is implementing the Action Plan.According to information sent by the State Government, 23 medical units are functioning for the gas victims. Employment was given to about 1000 gas victims in the industrial sheds allocated to various agencies. The Gas Relief Industrial Training Institute has trained about 8000 persons in different professions. 2486 houses were built to provide free residential accommodation to the relatives of deceased victims out of which 2430 houses have since been allotted.

(c): As per the order of the Hon`ble Supreme Court, the Union CarbideCorporation paid a sum of US$ 470 million to the Union of India as compensation in full settlement of all claims, rights and liabilities related to and arising out of Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster.As on 31.1.2002, Rs. 1507.70 crore have been disbursed as compensation to gas victims.